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**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**Q58134**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Pierre RIPOCHE, et al.

Allowed: August 13, 2003

Appln. No.: 09/519,847✓

Group Art Unit: 1731

Confirmation No.: 8169

Examiner: John M. Hoffmann

Filed: March 6, 2000

For: METHOD OF FABRICATING AN OPTICAL  
FIBER PREFORM INCLUDING OUTSIDE  
DEPOSITION OF SILICA, POSSIBLY  
DOPED SILICA

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF  
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Statements of Reasons for Allowance contained in the original and supplemental Notices of Allowability dated August 13, 2003, and October 14, 2003, respectively, please enter and consider the following remarks:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT  
U.S. SERIAL NO. 09/519,847

ART UNIT 1731  
Q58134

**REMARKS**

To the extent that they can be understood, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's Statements. Rather, the claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons explained in the Appeal Brief, specifically regarding the adjustment of relative positions of the injector means and the heating means. See the Appeal Brief at Part V, paragraphs 2 and 3, and Part VIII, paragraph 1.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: October 30, 2003